Normalisation of relations with Pakistan and Bangladesh

1534. SHRI B. _ SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will--the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether he held talks with his counterparts from Pakistan and Bangladesh regarding normalisation of relations, between India and those countries while he was in Kathmandu for the inauguration, of SAARC Secretariat; and

(b) if so. the outcome of the talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO); (a) and (b) During the External Affairs Minister's visit to Kathmandu for the inauguration of the SAARC Secretariat from January 15 to 18, 19S7 he met the Foreign Ministers of Pakistan and Bangladesh, as well 8s the Foreign Ministers of the other SAARC countries. During these talks, there was a general exchange of views reding bilateral relations.

Terrorist Activities in Punjab

1535. SHRI. B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY; Will the Minister of HOME AF-FAIRS be pleased' to state;

(a) whether Government have any positive evidence regarding foreign in-volvement in the terrorist activities in Punjab;

(b) if so, whether Government would come out with a white paper on this matter; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM*): (a) to (c) While Government have information about the foreign involvement in the terrorist activi ties in Punjab, it is not considered neces sary to publish a white paper in that re gard.

Boosting of Exports to West European Countries

536. SHRI PARVATHANENI UP I DRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) the measures taken by Government to boost- exports of different commodities • to the West European countries; and

(b) the steps being taken to improve the quality of products to maintain very schedules and to prevent unfair trade ' practices in the' exports?

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Besides, seeking improved access for Indian exports to the countries in West Europe, . from member nations and the EEC, vari-ous trade promotion measures for export production besides others such as participation in . exhibitions and trade fairs, exchange of delegations Buyer-Seller Meets are undertaken on a continuing basis.

(b) ln addition to helping trade and industry in export production through different promotional programmes, a number of products have been brought under the ambit of compulsory pre-shipment inspection. Such notified products cannot be exported unless certified by a designated ' authority. Cases of unfair trade practices" coming to the notice of Government are investigated through appropriate authorities and suitable remedial action taken to prevent recurrence.

Problems in engineering exports

1537. SHRI PARVATHANENI UP-DRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any- scheme to ensure that India's engineering exports do not attract penal duty provisions abroad; and

(b) if so what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) In framing schemes for export in-